

# Burgerville comes to community

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Camas finally got put on the map when Burgerville USA opened its doors on Dec. 19, 1981. Fast-food had found its way to our town.

The need of the community for a fast-food restaurant was the main reason Burgerville decided to locate in Camas, said Dan York, manager of the Camas Burgerville and an employee with Burgerville for the past 8½ years.

"Its local reputation and the fact that Burgerville is located in the Northwest is just one of the reasons people like Burgerville so much," York said. "There aren't Burgervilles all over the world."

Burgerville uses only Northwest products for their ingredients, from fresh local beef to fresh local produce. They deal only with local suppliers.

When Burgerville first opened its doors they started with a working crew of roughly 40 to 45 people, and right now they have about 35 employees.

"We start building up a working crew slowly in February," York said. "After about four months the crew is trained for the summer months. We'll have a crew of about 40-45 people for the summer."

Employees range in age from 14 to 45, with the average age being 19 to 20, York said.

"We have a pretty proportioned crew, one-third high school students, one-third young adults and the other one-third being mature adults," York said.

No major changes have taken place at



**AFTER 10 years Burgerville is well established in Camas. The fast food chain expects some minor changes in the next few years.**

Burgerville since it opened at the end of '81, but a few minor things have occurred. In 1987, salad bars were replaced with in-house salads, and a modern grill system that ties in with a new computerized register system was introduced.

"At this time, there is nothing

permanent planned as far as a remodel," he said. "But, I am sure that it is in the workings for the near future. We'll be coming up on 10 years real soon and by the time you hit it, it's pretty much time to get things brought back up to date. There's a lot that changes in 10 years."

Burgerville also tries to keep involved within the community. They work with

the local schools to establish reading, math and English skill programs and participated in the Schools of the 21st Century program by giving tours, interviews and answering questions that students had.

They also support the Little League and help out with Camas and Washougal Days. And on Thursdays, Burgerville delivers a cheeseburger and an order of fries to each of the prisoners waiting to be arraigned in Camas.

There have been a few minor problems with local teen-agers that were hanging around in front of the establishment, but they have been taken care of.

"At one time, there was a problem with teen-agers around here. We worked with the city council, the teen-agers and the Camas Police Department to get the problem under control," York said.

"The rowdy crowd does not come to Burgerville," he said. "It's more of a family-oriented restaurant, whatever time of the evening it is."

As for what the '90s may hold, York said that changes were sure to come both for the company and for Camas' Burgerville.

"We will double our size as a company," he said. "There will also be a lot of rapid growth, a lot of job opportunities for people at Burgerville in areas of management. And, we will still be staying in the Northwest in the '90s."

As for Camas, there will be bigger and better things to come, but nothing is definite at this time, York said.